

R. Rostow
[redacted]
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McGB

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J. Gilmer's report that the West Berliners have not yet come to realize how the closing of the sector border means the definitive split of Berlin (and that this will be quite a shock when it sinks in) leads me to urge that we anticipate this if possible, rather than waiting for it to happen.

The obvious gambit is for us to make vigorous noises about German reunification, and about our unwillingness to accept the permanent division of Germany. This noise would also help greatly to keep the East Germans stirred up.

On the latter score I hope we are considering measures to keep the word going to the East Germans, so they will not feel totally cut off. RIAS becomes very important for this connection and much less of an negotiable asset. Even reviving Drew Pearson's balloon operations is worth considering. Does VOA give short-wave coverage of East Germany? How about the West German radio? Sustaining Berlin morale (and East German dissidence, not resistance) will require periodic shots in the arm; is someone thinking about a systematic effort to this end?

RWK

cc: Mr. Rostow ✓
Mr. Owen
Mr. Kaysen

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| MS. Cachinist (NWK-R-672) | |
| By | 8/14/79 |
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